

STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS, AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING

THE ATWOOD BUILDING
550 WEST 7th AVENUE, SUITE 1550
ANCHORAGE, AK
BOARD OF NURSING

TELECONFERENCE MEETING MINUTES
September 3, 2021

By authority of AS 08.01.070(2) and in compliance with the professions of AS 44.62, Article 6, a meeting of the Board of Nursing was held by teleconference in the Atwood Building, Suite 1550 Conference Room, in Anchorage, Alaska.

September 3rd
CALL TO ORDER

Chair Danette Schloeder, called the meeting to order at 11:00am, Friday, September 3, 2021

ROLL CALL

Those present, constituting a quorum were:

- Chair RN Member: Danette Schloeder, RN Anchorage
- Public Member: Julie Tisdale, Wasilla
- Public Member: Shannon Connelly, Palmer
- LPN Member, Michael Wilcher, LPN Fairbanks
- RN Member, Lena Lafferty, RN Anchorage

Those excused from the meeting

- APRN, Wendy Monrad, APRN, Anchorage
- RN, Catherine Hample, RN, Wasilla

Staff present from the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing:

- Tessa Walker Linderman, Executive Administrator
- Lisa Maroney, Licensing Supervisor
- Joan Green, Nurse Consultant
- Jun Maiquis, Regulation Specialist
- Richard Moses, AGG
- Debora Young

- Sara Chambers, Division Director, Alaska Dept. of Commerce, Community and Economic Dev.

Members of the Public in attendance telephonically:

Jesse Christenson
 Jessica Gibbons
 Pete Traxler
 Jennifer Twito
 Kendra Sticka
 Cathy Winfree
 Sandra Steffenson
 Shaneeka Rude
 Lynn Van Vactor
 Marilyn Lumba
 Connie Beemer

Agenda Item 1:

- Shannon Connelly made a motion to approve the agenda. Motion was 2nd by Lena Lafferty. Motion passed unanimously
- Chair Danette Schloeder inquired of the Board of any ethics disclosure. Hearing none.

Agenda Item 2:

Overview of Emergency Regulation Request.

- Tessa Walker Linderman discussed the emergency regulations.
 - Immediate need for 55 CNA's
 - Align State of Alaska training requirement with Federal requirements.
 - DHSS request for over 100 CNAs to come to Alaska to assist with COVID surge and staffing shortage
 - Regulation project to make permanent changes to 12AAC44.815, regarding issuance and renewal of certification to change requirement for verification of CE and employment to attestation only

Agenda Item 3:

Board discussion

- The Board discussed working with organizations to ensure they meet the 80% pass rate
- Although State training hours are more than the Federal requirements, students still need to pass the exam
- The board is committed to working with new facilities that would like to become CNA training programs to approve new programs as quickly as possible.

On a motion made by Danette Schloeder, seconded by Shannon Connelly, and carried with 5 ayes, it was

RESOLVED that the Board of Nursing finds that an emergency exists under AS 44.62.250 and that an emergency regulation change is necessary to 12 AAC 44, dealing with emergency courtesy certification and training program standards for certified nurse aide, for the immediate

preservation of the public peace, health, safety, or general welfare. The facts constituting the emergency include the following:

The current surge of COVID-19 across Alaska has greatly increased the number of Alaskans becoming ill from the virus. Hospital capacity is at its highest since the beginning of the pandemic. Health care facilities are at max capacity and are struggling to retain staff. A recent survey of healthcare facilities across Alaska showed an immediate need for 55 CNAs with many more needed in the coming weeks. This critical healthcare worker shortage and the surge in cases across the state are what constitute this emergency.

On a motion made by Julie Tisdale, seconded by Shannon Connelly and carried with 4 ayes and 1 Nay, it was

RESOLVED that the Board of Nursing enacts emergency regulation changes to 12 AAC 44.835, regarding Certified Nurse Aide Training Program Standards to align Alaska's CNA training requirements with the Federal CNA training requirements (42 CFR 483.152) as proposed.

On a motion made by Shannon Connelly, seconded by Lena Lafferty and carried with 5 ayes, it was

RESOLVED that the Board of Nursing will open a regulations project for 12 AAC 44.835, to align Alaska's CNA training requirements with the Federal CNA training requirements (42 CFR 483.152) as proposed during an emergency.

On a motion made by Lena Lafferty, seconded by Shannon Connelly and carried with 5 ayes, it was

RESOLVED that the Board of Nursing enacts an emergency regulation, 12 AAC 44.806, to establish an Emergency Courtesy Certification for CNAs as proposed.

On a motion made by Michael Wilcher, seconded by Julie Tisdale, and carried with 5 ayes, it was

RESOLVED that the Board of Nursing will open a regulation project to enact changes to 12 AAC 44.805, regarding CNA Certification by Endorsement.

On a motion made by Danette Schloeder, seconded by Shannon Connelly, and carried with 5 ayes, it was

RESOLVED that the Board of Nursing will open a regulations project to make changes to 12 AAC 44.815, regarding Issuance and Renewal of Certification to change the requirement for verification of continuing education and employment to attestation only. Verification would be required under 12 AAC 44.825 Continuing Education Requirements at the time of an audit.

On a motion made by Shannon Connelly and seconded by Lena Lafferty and carried with 5 ayes the Board of Nursing adjourned at 11:46am

Respectfully submitted,

Executive Administrator, Alaska Board of Nursing

Approved:

Date: _____

Board Chair, Alaska Board of Nursing